



THE GYROLOG

THE GYRO CLUB OF EDMONTON

Club Charter No.18, July 29, 1921

President

Bill Taylor
780 430-0330

November 2010

1stVice-President

Ari Hoeksema
780 421-7776

Those celebrating their birthdays in November are **Carlyle Ross** on the 13th and **Marty Larson** on the 14th.

The November wedding anniversaries are **John and Helen Ross**, 47 years on the 2nd; **Jack and Terrie Ellis**, 44 years on the 19th and **Dick and Marilyn Nichols**, 47 years on the 23rd.

Past President

Leon Lubin
780 454-9712

President Bill Taylor welcomed 37 Gyro's and 6 guests to the November 2nd luncheon meeting at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club.

Secretary

Barry Walker
780 475-0983

Larry Dobson led the group in the singing of *Cheerio* and the Rev. **Jim Lochhead** presented the *Grace*.

Treasurer

Mike Matei
780 930-1780

Marty Larson introduced his two guests, **Al Smith** and **Dennis Laughlin**. **Bryce Van Dusen** introduced his guest and long time friend, **Bud Salloum**. **Jim Lochhead** introduced his guest **John Fraser** who is also a professional clown known as "Tease". **Sam Gruden** introduced his friend **Mike McKinney**.

Directors

Chuck Gerhart
780 439-9792
Ken Willan
780 434-1306
Warren Garbutt
780-435-2961
Dick Moskalyk
780-435-6922

Ari "Dutch" Hoeksema introduced our guest speaker, **Bob Disler**, a quiet man who does his "clowning" work in a serious and professional way. Bob indicated that to be a clown, you have to develop a unique "character" with a different "persona". The working tools of a clown, centre largely on makeup and a unique costume. There are two types of makeup, grease which is used by most of the guy's and water-based which is favoured by the ladies. The application of clown make-up is a time consuming and carefully orchestrated process taking anywhere from 45 minutes to an hour and fifteen minutes.

Gyrolog Editor

Fred Schulte
780 434-092

There are a number of makeup categories used by members of the World Clown Association.

Classic White Face: The aristocrat of all clowns, an elegant clown, artistic, colourful, bright and cheery. Its performance is highly artistic and skilful, but done with a comedic or dramatic flair.

Comedy White Face: This the most common White Face Clown today. When performing with the Auguste and/or Tramp, this Clown will usually take charge, setting up the routine, throwing rather than taking the pie, slap or kick.

The white face takes a lot of time for putting on makeup.

Auguste: Impish and prank-like with a more comic face than the White Face. August means the "fool" in German.

Tramp/Hobo: May be either happy or sad. The face has flesh tone that is accentuated with red, white, black or gray. A dirty effect is sometimes created with the makeup.

Character: Must depict a specific identifiable character in total clown makeup. Examples include; baseball player, sailor, nurse or Keystone Cop.

There are also theme clown's with the most famous being Santa Claus. Bob Disler has developed his character persona known as "**Dizzy**". Professional clowns participate in a number of different working activities. There is the walk-around **Magic Clown** who makes various objects appear and disappear. The **Balloon Artist**, who is not a balloon-making machine but an entertainer. The **Mime Clown** who by definition must make an impression without speaking a word. This is one of the most difficult types to learn and master. There are **Caring Clowns** who participate in special events for hospitals and sick kids. **Bud Salloum** of Edmonton was one of the founders of Caring Clowns in North America. The **Circus Clowns** are somewhat like the Auguste Clowns and don't require a lot of makeup but are action oriented.

There are a number of organizations that support the art of Clowning. The **Shrine Clowns** participate in special events to support children. There are 22 Shrine Hospitals for children in North and Central America. The **World Clown Association** exists to serve the needs of the members of the Association, to serve the needs of local affiliate clown alleys, and to promote the art of clowning throughout the world. A **Clown Alley** is a group of clowns that are located in a defined area such as Edmonton. There are also regional clown associations that provide good information and exchange clowning techniques.

To become a Clown, an individual must receive training for a minimum of three months, participate in three gigs with someone else in support. A minimum of one year is required to become a Caring Clown. Each clown face needs to be an "original". In Alberta, names are registered, but it is not mandatory.



Bob "Dizzy" Disler

The free lunch draw winner was **Gary Campbell**

President Bill Taylor welcomed 30 Gyro's and two guests to our **November 16th** luncheon meeting held at the Royal Mayfair Golf Club. The singing of Cheerio was led by **John Boyd** and the Grace was presented by **Jim Lochhead**. "**Dutch**" Hoeksema introduced his guest **Art Merrick**.

John Ross provided information on the passing of his mother-in-law **Irene Watson** on November 11th at the age of 102.

Jim Lochhead introduced our guest speaker **Patricia Ordynec**, Manager, North Region Office of the **ALS Society of Alberta**. Patricia has been with the ALS Society for the last 10 years and has been a Registered Nurse with a focus on rehabilitation for most of her working career.

Patricia indicated that at any given time in Alberta about 200 people have **Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis** or **ALS**, which is a progressive neuromuscular disease. Nerve cells continue to die, voluntary muscles become paralyzed, the senses are unimpaired and the intellect may remain unaffected. ALS is also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease, Motor Neuron Disease or in France, *Maladie de Charcot*.

ALS can strike anyone, male or female, any ethnic origin, at any age; some have been diagnosed as teens but the usual onset is in middle age. It is difficult to diagnose because it mimics other diseases such as Multiple Sclerosis and Muscular Dystrophy. Some will die within a few short months and some will live longer than five years; 90% die within two to five years of diagnosis. Some cases are hereditary but less than 10% are familial, ALS is not contagious.

Approximately 3,000 Canadians currently live with ALS, there is no treatment that prolongs life significantly and it is the most common cause of neurological death in Canada. ALS affects the whole family, 90% of care is shouldered by family caregivers and it is a costly disease-emotionally, physically and financially.

The ALS Society of Alberta, incorporated as a non-profit agency in 1986, helps those affected by and living with ALS. They support clients and families by providing information, client services, support and equipment. The society helps financially with the supply of ceiling tracks for lifts, electrical hospital beds, powered motor scooters and computer access. Care giving challenges are immense, nursing care can cost 10 times as much as the equipment that is required. The average cost of 24/7 nursing care over the course of the disease is \$127,000.

Research is the best hope into the cause and cure of the disease. For more information on the work of the ALS Society, visit www.alsab.ca

Allan Warrack thanked Patricia for a very interesting and thought-provoking presentation. Thanks to the team of **Jim Lochhead**, **Roy Bennett** and **Allan Warrack** for organizing this speaking event.

Bruce Foy was the winner of the Free Lunch draw.

Dick Nichols reports on the results of the Hockey Pool.

Game 1 November 9	Winners	First Period	Second Period	Final	
Oilers vs. Hurricanes					
First	0	4	Eric Spink	Rob Burnett	Dean Lawson
Second	0	5	Danica Russell	Roger Russell	Allan Warrack
Final	1	7			

Game 2 November 21	Winners	First Period	Second Period	Final	
Oilers vs. Ducks					
First	0	0	Ron Ramsey	Chuck Gerhart	Walter Yakimets
Second	2	2	Joyce Brown	Austin Power	Emma Hastings
Final	4	2	Brooke Weisberger		

UPCOMING EVENTS

**Gyro/Gyrette Christmas Party, River View Room, Shaw Conference Centre,
Tuesday Evening, December 7th**

6:00 pm: Champagne and socializing

6:30 pm: Carved Roast Turkey Dinner

Cost: \$58 per person without wine, \$68 with wine

Contacts: Fred Schulte, Leon Lubin and Larry Dobson

Gyrette Meeting, Royal Mayfair Golf Club, December 14th

Time: 6:00 pm, Dinner 6:30

Cost \$25

Speaker: Stephanie Perilli, Stollery Hospital Foundation, who will talk about the amazing things being done at the hospital.

Each child, their guardians and siblings who are at the Stollery over Christmas receive a small gift. You may donate a new item which must be in sealed packaging. Stuffed animals cannot be accepted. A recommended alternative is the purchase of gift cards from such places as Toys R Us which allows the Child Life department to purchase what they need when they need it. Gift cards from places such as Tim Horton's allows parents to sneak away for lunch or coffee.

Contact: Janet Russell

Gyro/Gyrette Mixed Event Luncheon, St. Josaphat's Cathedral, 10825-97 Street, Tuesday Noon, December 21st

Time: 11:30 am, tour of the Cathedral

12:00 noon, Beef dinner buffet style followed by Bishop David's presentation

Cost: \$15 for Gyro's, \$20 for spouses and guests

Contacts: Walter Yakimets, Michael Mant and John Ross

District VIII Interim Convention, Fairmont Hot Springs Resort, March 11-13, 2011

The 2011 District VIII Convention, Wallace Idaho, June 16-19

Registration Fee: \$375 couple or \$187.50 single

Co-Chairmen: David DeRoos and Mike Hull

Convention Information:

<http://www.wallacegyros.com/resources/Registration%20Form2.pdf>